

**NEWS RELEASE****For Immediate Release**

(release #) 06-01

**Contact: Rob Henneke, EPA, 303-312-6734  
Jeannine Natterman, CDPHE, 303-692-3303  
Bob Darr, DOE, 303-966-4546**

**EPA, DOE and Colorado Select Rocky Flats Final Cleanup Plan**

**GOLDEN, Colo., Sept. 29, 2006 – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Energy and the state of Colorado today confirmed that the Rocky Flats cleanup is protective of human health and the environment and meets federal Superfund regulatory requirements and state hazardous waste laws.**

**Officials from the three agencies signed the Corrective Action Decision/Record of Decision (CAD/ROD) for the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site. This marks a significant step towards transferring a majority of the 6,200 acres surrounding the former nuclear weapons production facility into a national wildlife refuge.**

**EPA Region 8's Assistant Regional Administrator, Max H. Dodson, said, "Today's signing of this CAD/ROD is not only a milestone for the cleanup of Rocky Flats, but a milestone for the nation's Superfund program. This effort represents the best cleanup model since the CERCLA statute was passed in 1980."**

**The CAD/ROD outlines DOE's responsibilities to maintain the protectiveness of the final remedy for the environmental contamination that resulted from decades of nuclear weapons production. In addition, it determines that no additional soil cleanup is required. The remedy requires DOE to retain, with physical and institutional controls, about 1,300 acres in the central area of the site that includes two landfill covers, three passive groundwater treatment systems and long-term groundwater and surface water monitoring systems.**

**"This decision affirms the protectiveness of the remedy," said Gary Baughman, Director, Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. "It paves the way for activities that will ensure future success of the cleanup at Rocky Flats."**

-more-

**ADMIN RECORD**

SW-A-006175

The next step in the regulatory process for closing Rocky Flats involves completing the legally binding Rocky Flats Legacy Management Agreement between DOE, EPA and Colorado that implements the requirements of the CAD/ROD. The agreement will be offered for public comment and review prior to signing and will serve as the formal mechanism for enforcing future long-term regulatory requirements, including surveillance, monitoring and maintenance necessary to ensure that the remedy continues to be protective of human health and the environment. DOE will also grant an environmental covenant to the state to comply with Colorado environmental laws.

"We have succeeded in completing the largest environmental cleanup of a former DOE weapons site to date," said Frazer Lockhart, Rocky Flats Project Office manager. "The project was completed for hundreds of millions under budget and many months ahead of schedule."

DOE provided the public an opportunity to participate in the remedy selection process by issuing the Proposed Plan for a 60-day public comment period and responded to public comments in the responsiveness summary, which is included in the CAD/ROD.

The CAD/ROD will be posted on [www.rfets.gov](http://www.rfets.gov) under the Site Closure Documents link and on the Legacy Management Rocky Flats Site webpage at noon today and will be entered into the Rocky Flats CERCLA Administrative Record.

- 30 -

